A GREENER GETTY

The Getty is committed to providing environmental stewardship in the cultural community. In 2008 the Getty Center became the first facility of its kind in the county to be awarded LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, a U.S. Green Building Council certification) for existing buildings by the U.S. Green Building Council. Since then the Getty has reduced energy consumption by up to 30%, prevented through a combination of lighting upgrades, the use of efficient irrigation techniques and introducing drought-tolerant landscapes, and waste recycling.

ARCHITECTURAL GRID

A visitor’s eye is drawn down a grid—swimming, scuba, playing, and dramatic complements and scissors of the assembly of buildings. Notice how the undulating, windowless, floral, and atavistic spaces are organized in a grid component of grid squares. The various spaces have been arranged to best reveal the same vision covering much of the Getty Center—that coming from Diz di Tivoli, Italy.

MUSEUM COURTYARD FOUNTAINS

Combining architectural and landscape elements, the Museum Courtyard Fountains feature a 16-foot linear fountain on one side by a man-made artificial creek from. Notice the massive, moveable moat sculptures grouped in a pool near the West Pavilion.

DAYLIGHT FOR PAINTINGS

On the upper level, the Museum’s paintings galleries are illuminated by skylights with computer-controlled screens and a system of cool and warm artificial light. Maintaining natural light means using low electricity, which the Getty has also accomplished by replacing thousands of incandescent lamps with compact fluorescent ones that are 80% more efficient.

SOUND, COLOR, AND TEXTURE

As you follow the zigzag path of Richard Meier’s Central Garden, listen to the whispering sound of the stream. The boulders have been placed along the stream to create this “sound sculpture.” Look closely at the groupings of plants, loosely and unconventionally arranged by color and texture.

IMMERSE AND COOL

The South Promontory is a re-creation of a desert landscape. This garden strikes a balance with the landscaping on the site’s cooler south side, which is dominated by planting of blues, purples, and pinks. By enforcing efficient irrigation techniques and introducing drought-tolerant plants, the Getty has been able to cut water use by more than 50 percent.

Architectural and Garden Highlights

Designed by architect Richard Meier, the Getty Center features both public and private buildings that house the J. Paul Getty Trust, which includes the J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Research Institute, and Getty Conservation Institute, and Getty Foundation. The gardens and landscaping at the Getty Center provide a counterpart of color and texture to the complex of buildings. Most notable is the Central Garden: the creation of the artist Robert Irwin, who has called it “a sculpture in the form of a garden aspiring to be art.” The Getty Center’s other gardens were designed by landscape architect Laurie Olin in collaboration with Richard Meier.

 MOVING UP

The tram—essentially a horizontal elevator—travels on wheels 15/16 of a mile up the 34-degree slope in 5.2 minutes. It is an electric, cable-driven system; the kinetico cars ride on a cable at high altitude. This ride to the summit, artful in itself, serves as a whole, designed to give visitors the feeling of “being elevated out of their day-to-day experience,” says Macier.

A FLOWERING MAZE

As the bastions of the Central Garden, the colors and forms of the grid mesh with the viewer’s eye. The walls and paths, and vistas in perspective, serve to make the space for the viewer to “be inside the garden.”

FRAMED VIEWS

A glassed portal announces the entrance to the Getty Research Institute, which houses changing exhibitions and a vast art library. Notice how the portal frames the view toward the ocean. The Research Institute building slopes upward left, has a circular plan and is organized as a series of open bays connected by ramps.

Accessibility

The Getty Center is open to visitors with disabilities. The Getty Research Institute is accessible. Most exhibits are accessible. Parking,it is parking available. For information on accessibility, parking, and tours, call (310) 440-7500 or visit www.getty.edu/accessibility.

Questions and Comments

Call: (310) 440-7305 or (310) 440-7307. TTY line for hearing impaired: (310) 440-7585 or visit www.getty.edu/accessibility.

The Getty Center

Los Angeles, CA

Fran and Eli Broad Visitors Center

General Information

HOURS, ADMISSION, AND PARKING

The Getty Center is open Tuesday through Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Center is closed on Mondays. There is no admission or parking fee. Also, for those who arrive on bicycles, plan to pick up your bikes in the parking garage.

ELEVATOR

All bags may be subject to security inspection. Backpacks, water bottles, lawn chairs, and packages larger than 11 x 17 x 10 inches must be checked at the Coat and Parcel Drop Station in the Museum Entrance Hall.

LOUNGE

Gift shops are open when the center was last open. Please note that it is illegal to bring alcohol or other beverages into the Getty Center. Self-service beverage dispensers are available.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Handheld photos and videos exciting light or entrance in the general galleries are permitted. Self-service photograph and video cameras are permitted.

GALLERY LIGHTING

Uplighting in the paintings, drawings, and drawings galleries is designed to protect art from fading.

NO FOOD OR DRINK

Food and drinks are not permitted in the galleries. Please remove all soft plastic containers and be sure of lack of any insecticides.

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